

SECRETOUT 64182
PRIORITY

S E C R E T 270239Z JAN 68 CITE [REDACTED] 0030

1968 JAN 27 03 22Z 25X1
25X1PRIORITY
OXCART

SUBJ: EVALUATION OF BLACK SHIELD, MISSION BX6843

1. CAMERA TYPE I (115A) UNIT C WAS USED ON MISSION BX6843 FLOWN 5 JANUARY 1968. THE MISSIONS CONSISTS OF 1566 TITLED FRAMES AND WAS PROCESSED IN THE FIELD.

2. BOTH CAMERAS OPERATED SATISFACTORILY THROUGHOUT THE MISSION, EXCEPT ON FRAMES 1349-1382 (SEE PARA 4). GROUND RESOLUTION OBTAINED AT NADIR DURING STRAIGHT AND LEVEL FLIGHT WITH THE CAMERA UNCAGED IS ESTIMATED TO BE [REDACTED] (BAR PLUS SPACE).

25X1

3. EXPOSURE IS ADEQUATE THROUGHOUT THE MISSION. PROCESSING WAS SATISFACTORY.

4. START-UP AND SHUT-DOWN WERE NORMAL. THE CAMERA RECYCLED BETWEEN FRAMES 763-786. A TOTAL OF 49 AFT FRAMES ARE LACKING DATA BLOCKS. EMULSION SCRATCHES OCCURRED DURING START-UP AND SHUT-DOWN APPROXIMATELY 0.5 INCH FROM THE LEADING EDGE (EDGE OPPOSITE THE CLOCKS). MINOR EMULSION SCRATCHES ARE PRESENT INTERMITTENTLY THROUGHOUT THE MISSION WITH ONE SCRATCH 0.7 INCH FROM THE LEADING EDGE IN ALL FRAMES. THESE FAINT SCRATCHES CAUSE NO IMAGE DEGRADATION. APPROXIMATELY EVERY OTHER FORWARD FRAME DATA BLOCK ENTERS THE FORMAT (A MAXIMUM OF 0.4 INCHES). THE TIMING MARKS ALONG THE TRAILING EDGE OF THE FORWARD FRAMES OCCASIONALLY RUN OFF THE FILM EDGE AT THE NON-DATA BLOCK END. UP TO SEVEN INCHES OF TIME TRACK IS MISSING AT THE BEGINNING OF SCAN. TWO MINUS DENSITY LINES (2.7 AND 2.8 INCHES FROM THE LEADING EDGE) ARE DETECTABLE IN ALL FORWARD FRAMES. ONE MINUS DENSITY LINE (2.4 INCHES FROM THE LEADING EDGE) IS PRESENT IN ALL AFT FRAMES. A PIECE OF EMULSION 0.1 INCH SQUARE IS MISSING FROM THE MIDDLE OF FRAME 144. THERE ARE FOUR CASES OF OVERLAPPING FRAMES OTHER THAN THOSE DUE TO START-UP, SHUT-DOWN OR CAMERA RECYCLE. THREE OF THESE CASES INVOLVE ONLY TWO FRAMES EACH. FRAMES 645/648, 685/688, AND 1427, 1420. THE MAXIMUM OVERLAP OF THESE THREE CASES IS 0.15 INCH. ALSO FRAMES 1349 AND 1382, OVERLAP A MAXIMUM OF 5.8 INCHES. THE CAMERA WAS RUNNING SLOW DURING THESE FRAMES. FRAME 597 CONTAINS A 0.5 INCH LONG CRIMP RUNNING ACROSS TRACK. HEAT SPLICES ARE PRESENT BETWEEN FRAMES 267/270, 675/678, 761/764 AND 1209/1212. FRAME 490 HAS AN ULTRA-SONIC SPLICE IN IT. INK OR GREASE STAINS THAT RESEMBLE FINGER PRINTS ARE ALSO PRESENT ADJACENT TO THE SPLICE. A PLUS DENSITY AREA (0.5 INCH ACROSS TRACK BY 0.5 INCH ALONG TRACK) APPEARED ON THE TRAILING EDGE AFTER THE RECYCLE. IT APPEARED INTERMITTENTLY THROUGHOUT THE REST OF THE MISSION. WHEN TWO OR MORE OCCUR CLOSE TOGETHER, THEY ARE ALWAYS 21 INCHES APART. ALL FORWARD FRAMES BETWEEN 777 AND 853 CONTAIN A MINUS DENSITY BAND (0.25 INCH WIDE AND LOCATED 5 TO 6 INCHES FROM THE DATA BLOCK END OF FRAME) RUNNING ALONG TRACK. IT APPEARS TO BE A SHADOW OF THE VEHICLE'S CONTRAIL.

5. A YELLOW DISCOLORATION WAS NOTED THROUGHOUT THE MISSION ON THE ORIGINAL NEGATIVE.

6. BOTH PROGRAMMED AND SENSED V:/H WERE USED ON THIS MISSION. THE IMAGERY OBTAINED FROM EACH IS SATISFACTORY.

7. THE CORRELATION OF THE INS TAPE, FILM DATA BLOCK AND IMAGERY IS SATISFACTORY.

8. THE ZERO PRIORITY REPRODUCTION AND REGULAR REPRODUCTION APPEAR TO BE OF EQUAL QUALITY.

9. CLOUDS OBSCURE APPROXIMATELY 30 PERCENT OF THE MISSION.

S E C R E T

END OF MSG

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